

Happy New Year

Business Greetings to you >Pages 6-7

The Bethel Citizen

Vol. CXX - No. 53

Thursday, December 31, 2015

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Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

2015 REVIEW

Andover, SAD 44 part ways

After nearly 50 years as a member, the Town of Andover left SAD 44 to form its own school system and take over control of the Andover Elementary School. A successful vote to withdraw from the district followed concerns about the future of the school under SAD 44 control. In June, at the town's first school budget meeting as an independent school unit, residents voted to increase the proposed amount spent on regular instruction, from \$871,130 to \$891,130, in order to allow the Andover Elementary School to maintain three teachers in the multi-grade classrooms. The proposed budget would have dropped it to two. The total budget added up to \$1,496,301, with about \$200,000 in state aid expected. There were about \$115,000 in one-time startup costs. The mil rate for this year increased from 15.6 to 19.6. Last school year Andover, as a member of SAD 44, paid just under \$700,000 to the district. Said School Committee member Paula Lee this week, "The Andover School Department is very pleased with the start up thus far. We owe that to the quality of the full and part time staff. Grades K-5 are served by many qualified professional educators; eat breakfast and lunch from our functioning school kitchen and 6-12 are attending the school of their choice. We are looking forward to completing our initial school year."

... and Newry looks into it

As Andover took its first steps as a new, independent school system, the Town of Newry continued to try to craft a withdrawal agreement with SAD 44 for Newry residents to vote upon. It has proven difficult. The district's stance on the issue has been to argue the only fair agreement keeps Newry paying nearly the same amount of money if it withdraws as it would if it stays. The financial impact of withdrawal, even with a proposal by Newry negotiators to spread the reduction in payments over 10 years, would still be too damaging to SAD 44, the district negotiators argued. The two parties tried mediation in late November, without success. The answer to the question of how long the stalemate could continue within the context of the state law that guides withdrawal processes remained uncertain at the end of the year.

SAD escapes funding change

On another school funding issue, SAD 44 dodged a bullet in April when the Maine Legislative removed SAD 44 from a bill that proposed removing an exemption put in place 10 years ago on SAD 44 and SAD 6 that kept local school cost sharing entirely based on property valuations, rather than basing some of it on student population. Had it passed as written, the financial effect on SAD 44 towns other than Newry would have been more significant than a Newry withdrawal, according to district officials. Newry's share of the budget would have dropped drastically because of its small student population.

The Casablanca finds new life

In 2015 there were two attempts to re-open Bethel's Casablanca Cinema. The first one fell through when state law requirements for bathroom facilities became a roadblock. The second attempt, using a different approach and ramping up slowly in the fall, has made progress and is still underway. Renamed The Gem Theater by new owners Wade Kavanaugh and Bethany Weisberger of Albany, the theater has combined films, art exhibits and other activities to draw in the community. Late in the year the couple was working on fundraising to convert/upgrade two of the theater screens to digital projection to accommodate the modern film format.

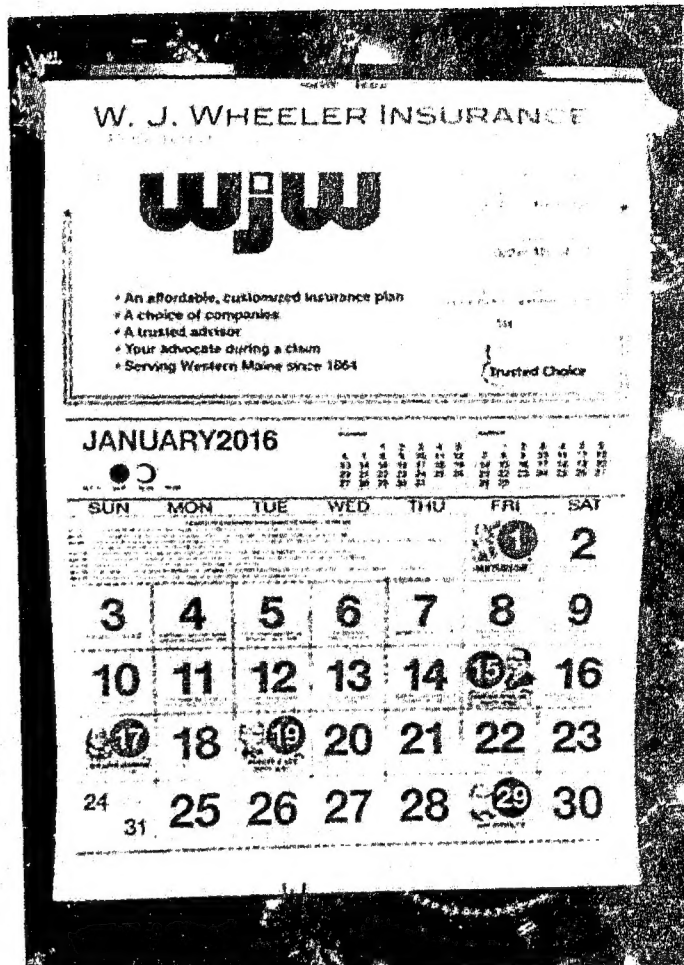
Blue the dog finds a home

A young dog named "Blue" made headlines across Maine and beyond when he was discovered at Sunday River Resort in October wandering with severe damage to his muzzle from it having been bound shut. He was taken to the Bethel Animal Hospital, where surgery was done to close a gash on one side of his mouth caused by the binding material. As the good-natured dog recuperated, an application process to adopt him got underway. About a month later he went to his new home, which is in the area but was not disclosed to protect his new family's privacy.

See 2015, Page 2



CALENDARS, FROM ONE CENTURY TO THE NEXT—Above, the 1916 calendar that was distributed a century ago by the W.J. Wheeler Insurance Co. Right, the 2016 Wheeler calendar on display on the office Christmas tree.



Calendars a constant at W.J. Wheeler

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

This Saturday, Jan. 2, marks the 240th anniversary of the raising of the first U.S. flag by George Washington, in Cambridge, Mass.

Alaska was admitted into the union as a state on Jan. 3, 1959.

These anniversaries, and many other snippets of historical data, are noted on the 2016 calendar distributed by the W.J. Wheeler Insurance Agency to its customers.

The iconic wall calendar, with its red and blue ink and familiar graphics, has been a fixture in homes and businesses throughout western Maine for generations.

"I grew up with this calendar," said Donita St. John of South Paris. "Our home was not a home without a W.J. Wheeler calendar."

"The calendars are produced by Geiger Co. out of Lewiston and always have been," said Curtis Cole.

A fourth-generation descendant of company founder William J. Wheeler, Cole has been with the agency since 1982.

Geiger is the long-time

producer of the Farmers' Almanac, and the W.J. Wheeler calendar also features almanac data and weather predictions.

For example: January's full moon this year will occur on the 23rd day of the month.

January 1-3 should be fair and cold in the northeast.

Expect a "coast-hugging storm" along the Atlantic seaboard to bring wet and unsettled weather between the 24th and 27th.

Cole estimated that the company has been handing out the calendar in its current format for at least 60 years.

"Previous to this, there were other calendars, but no single iconic one," he said.

He provided a photo of a calendar the agency distributed a century ago, in 1916.

Produced for the Fidelity-Phenix Fire Insurance Company, it depicts a painting by Massachusetts commercial artist Griswold Tyng of a rough-and-tumble football game. The Fidelity-Phenix logo appears in the background of the painting.

"I think it speaks to the

universality of calendars and advertising going back centuries," Cole said.

Giving back

This year, W.J. Wheeler turned its distribution of the annual calendar into a way to help out local food pantries, asking customers to donate a non-perishable food item at either the South Paris or Bethel office in exchange for a calendar.

Bookkeeper Janet Fournier said the agency is always looking for ways to give back to the community.

W.J. Wheeler teams participate in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl-a-thon each year, and in November several employees ran a 5k race to fundraise in support of youth sports. Employees from the South Paris office recently volunteered at the free community lunch at the Norway Unitarian Universalist Church, and purchased Christmas gifts for a local family.

Staff in the Bethel office shopped for items for Christmas for Families, and those in both locations helped with end-of-season clean-up for the Edible Main Street project.

"We're trying to get out there into the community and let people know that we're a small, local business that is willing to do what we can to help out," Fournier said.

An insurance company tradition
The tradition of insurance company calendars dates back to the 19th century, when Hartford, Connecticut became known as "the insurance capital of the world" and its many insurance companies, including Travelers, Aetna, and The Hartford, began issuing calendars to their employees and customers at Christmas.

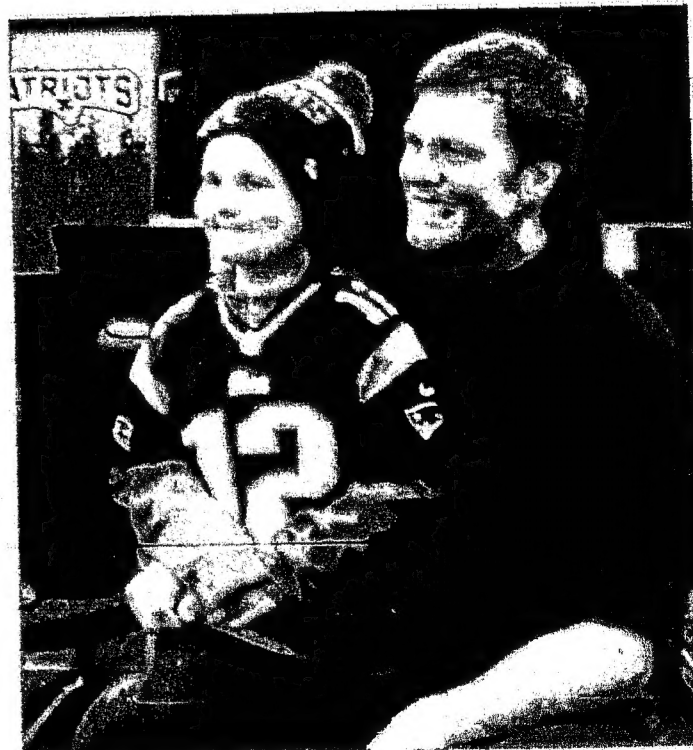
Handing out a calendar at the holidays not only built goodwill among customers, but also kept the company logo (and, frequently, contact information) perpetually posted on their walls.

Perhaps the most well-known of insurance company calendars is one featuring Currier and Ives prints, distributed annually since 1938 by the Travelers Insurance Company. Its popularity prompted

See WHEELER, Page 2

Hailey Steward, 8, of Bethel is fighting leukemia for the second time in her young life. She is receiving treatment at the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital in Portland, where she has her room covered with posters and photos of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady. Before Christmas Hailey said her Christmas wish was to meet the star player. She then received a video invitation from Brady to come to Foxboro, Mass. this past Saturday. Hailey and her family made the trip. Once there, she got a hug from Brady and a chance to sit on his lap. When Hailey's mom, Tabatha, posted photos on her Facebook page (Hailey's Journey, Our Journey), the story was picked up by Boston and other sports media and broadcast far and wide. As the family traveled home, Tabatha was asked for a comment from her daughter on the experience. "Hailey said the hard part was leaving Tom Brady, but she will never forget today."

Submitted photo



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Letters

THANKS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

To the Editor:

I wish to thank you for keeping your reader's entertained.

The political letters both for and against any specific political view or person are truly entertaining. Those letters just go to prove how absolutely hilarious any person can be if they put their minds to it.

I would also like to thank the letter writers and ask that they continue efforts to keep us laughing. We need their humor especially in light of the condition the world is in.

Thanks one and all.

Bud Kulik
Bethel

Wheeler

Continued from page 1

the company to make the current calendar available for sale on line in recent years.

The appeal of vintage insurance company calendars continues, with hundreds bought and sold each year on eBay and other websites featuring antiques and collectibles.

"Old-school"

While the plainer W.J. Wheeler calendar may not have the same visual appeal as some other advertising calendars, for many of the agency's customers, it's the one they want on their walls.

"[Curtis] knows if he doesn't come by and bring me my calendar, I'm not going to be happy," said St. John. "In this world where everything is changing so much, I really respect the fact that this is one thing that hasn't changed."

Roger Wilday, president

of Ledgerview Living Center, said that each year, W.J. Wheeler supplies the nursing home with calendars for the residents' rooms.

"Our residents like them because of the big numbers on them" which can be read easily, he said.

For St. John, the annual W.J. Wheeler calendar is a reflection of the company that distributes it—steady and reliable.

"From my first car until now, I wouldn't have my insurance through anyone but W.J. Wheeler," she said, adding that she is "kind of old-fashioned" and believes that a company's good service should earn loyalty from its customers.

"I'm very old-school," St. John said. "My calendar is a part of my household—I couldn't keep house without it."



W.J. Wheeler employees Diane Merrill and Michelle Walker with "Christmas Angel" Nina Wheeler (center). Wheeler was at the agency's Bethel office to pick up gifts the staff had purchased for the Christmas for Families program.

Submitted photo

ON SAD 44 'TACTICS'

To the Editor:

A big item for Newry in 2015 was the creation of a school withdrawal committee. The town voted to raise \$50,000 for the purpose of reaching a withdrawal process for the town of Newry. When the state decided to change the school funding formula from valuation to a student population based formula a decade ago, the leadership at the school board realized that the good times were over and the money from Newry that they were so addicted to would not be available anymore. So instead of stepping up and paying their fair share for the school system, they decided to go to Augusta to get an exemption from state policy.

In my opinion the School Board has used backroom deals and manipulation of the process to be able to get the legislators to give SAD 44 an exemption to the new state law. Now that we have been watching the negotiation process trying to move forward, it's quite obvious that the School Board has no intentions of negotiating a withdrawal agreement. It's been said that the two parties have been working on an agreement, but the school committee has not made any concessions or real proposals as of yet.

The latest red herring thrown out by the school committee was to blame the Newry Withdrawal Committee for not having a quorum so they could properly respond to the School Board's latest "proposal." Besides not being a proposal, telling the committee that they will consider adding another representative for the Newry school board is a subject that the committee does not have authority to consider.

There are so many things to respond to in the latest article that I don't know where to start. I just hope that people can see through the rhetoric, distortions, and bullying tactics used by the school leadership. It's quite obvious they will say about anything in order not to lose Newry's money. It seems quite odd that the rest of the districts in the state can live with the new funding formula, but somehow SAD 44 is so different that we needed an exemption. I believe Mr. Murphy's and Marcel Polak's authoritarian/dictatorship style of governing, as I see it, is an affront to the rule of law and should make everyone a lot nervous.

Doug Webster
Newry

2015

Continued from page 1

Bethel wrestles with many issues

The Town of Bethel dealt with several controversial issues in 2015, and some will continue into 2016.

An issue that first arose in 2013 regarding how to charge town sewer users continued through 2015. The town attempted to update its billing practices to charge older apartments and other, older units individually rather than by building. With a definition for "dwelling unit" that town officials acknowledged was unclear, some of the property owners affected by the billing updates objected, arguing that it should also be applied to such buildings as bed and breakfasts and other lodging places, as well as dormitory rooms. The owners said the rate structure was unfair and bills should simply be based on volume of water used, rather than on a combination of minimum charge and then volume used. The selectmen voted to suspend the new billing practice until a committee could study the problem and come up with a better solution. Separately, in October, voters rejected a new definition for "dwelling unit" because it did not include lodging places and dormitories. In December selectmen proposed an adjustment in sewer rates to address the concerns of the multi-unit owners, with a public hearing planned for Jan. 25.

In the spring of 2015 a proposal to erect signs reminding drivers to keep a safe distance when passing cyclists on town roads blew up into a sometimes-contentious debate over the rights to the roads. Some area drivers, particularly businesspeople, said that some cyclists - especially teenagers - rode two or more across, making it difficult and unsafe to pass them. Selectman Peter Southam, who is also the cycling coach for Gould Academy, played a central role in the discussion. There was much discussion over interpretations of state law on how to handle passing situations. The original sign proposal was dropped.

In June residents voted against stopping the practice of adding fluoride to the town's drinking water. Supporters of removal had argued that studies have linked fluoride to possible health problems. Area dental professionals argued in favor of keeping it, saying it makes a significant difference in preventing cavities in young children.

In July efforts to implement a plan by the Bingham Forest Authority to build mountain biking trails on Bethel Water District Land adjacent to the 2,300-acre Bingham parcel hit a roadblock when residents of the Daisy Bryant Road - the only current access to the land - objected. They worried that additional vehicle traffic on the narrow dirt road would be too much for it to handle safely, and that the recreationists would trespass on their land. Arguing that the town's claimed right-of-way over the road was not valid, they threatened to go to court. But neither the town nor some of the road residents wished to incur the legal costs, and in the fall Selectman Don Bennett asked them to talk to him informally about whether a solution could be found. That process had not yet been completed at year's end, according to town officials.

And over the course of the year, selectmen pondered the future of the Ethel Bisbee School building, which was returned to the town by SAD 44 in 2014. With EBS deemed eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, the board may consider proposing an engineering evaluation on the structure.

Drug use grows in the area

Drug use continued to be a growing problem in the Bethel area, as it has been around the state. There were several arrests for drug trafficking, particularly in heroin, with the largest drug investigation in Oxford County culminating at the end of the year in the arrest of 15 people, five from the Bethel region. There were also area deaths from suspected heroin overdoses during the year. Late in the year the Bethel Area Prevention Task Force was organizing to gather information from the community in order to take steps to try to prevent young people from getting involved in drugs.

Two accidents in one weekend

On the weekend of Oct. 15 Bethel lost a longtime resident to a car accident, while a Gould Academy student was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident. Susan Isham, 47, died when her vehicle and another collided head-on on the Intervale Road. A Gould teen, who was not identified, was riding a bicycle when he was struck on Church Street by a hit-and-run driver.

Leukemia strikes the young

In the fall the Bethel area rallied around three young people who were all fighting leukemia, holding fundraisers to help out with medical bills. Sadly, one of them lost her battle in October. Telstar junior Regan Kauf, 16, passed away from complications of the disease. Still fighting it at year's end were Jonathon Locke, 16, and Hailey Stewart, 8.

Mystery surrounds 'snowman lot'

Speculation over the future of the "snowman lot" at Bethel Station was prompted by soils testing on the site in August. Tony Donovan, the realtor for the property, said it was under contract but the potential purchaser and possible plans for the site would not be revealed at that time. In November, Donovan said a decision on whether or not to develop the lot could come in the spring. Some gasoline residue from the old town garage, which was located on the site in the past, was discovered, he said, and engineers were to be consulted on possible next steps.

Mt. Explorer returns for another season

Early in 2015 the committee overseeing the Mountain Explorer bus service between Bethel and Sunday River Resort revealed that financial support from area businesses for the bus had been eroding in recent years, and the service might have to be cut back in the 2015-2016 ski season. An appeal was made for more contributions. In the fall, the service announced a new arrangement with Gould Academy to add service for the school's students between Gould and Sunday River Resort, aiding the financial situation. The service also added new sponsors and retained longtime ones, according to spokesman Craig Zurhorst. He also said there have been "schedule trimming" to reduce costs, but most riders will be unaware of the changes.

Hanover builds a house

Hanover residents and other volunteers came together in 2015 to build a new home for resident Andy Barlow, who does not have use of his legs and was finding it difficult to get around his older home. A combination of fundraising activities and volunteer contractor help - overseen by volunteer builder Howard Bailey of Andover - made the home a reality late in the year. In mid-December they celebrated the accomplishment with a party. Barlow is a long-time volunteer himself with the Maine Adaptive Sports and Recreation program at Sunday River Resort.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: Steve Pelotier was appointed to a five-year term on the Hanover Planning Board, replacing Frank Morrison, who was elected to the town's Select Board.

Joe Perham, the State Street Jazz Band, and Fred Garbo were among the performers at the Bethel Historical Society's 8th annual New Year's Bethel Deaths: Margaret E. Toth, Barbara M. Lucas.

20 years ago: The state nixed Newry's request to install a traffic light at the Skiway Access/Sunday River roads intersection.

Arlene Bean, school bus driver in SAD44 for 25 years, was guest of honor at a retirement party at the American Legion Hall in Bethel.

30 years ago: Challenge '85, the Bethel Area Health Center's fundraising campaign exceeded its goal of \$98.6 thousand by nearly \$60,000.

Tourists flocked to the area during Christmas week; Sunday River set a record of 4,000 lift tickets sold in one day, and Mt. Abram had 5,000 skiers over the weekend.

Births: Mark James Gagnon, Whitney Boyker Emens.

Deaths: Mrs. Thelma B. Hicks.

40 years ago: Richard and Kathy Gleason were the new owners of Oxford Hills Communications, Inc., licensee of radio station WNXY-FM in Norway.

There was a New Year's Eve Ball at the Jackson Silver Post in Locke Mills. Music was furnished by the Lovejoy orchestra.

50 years ago: Two 1966 model school buses were purchased by S.A.D. 44 for \$13,560.00. One was a Ford, the other a Chevrolet, both with Bluebird bodies.

Woodstock High School issued its new publication, "The Traveler." Jerrold Emmons was editor-in-chief, and Joy Emmons, assistant editor.

Deaths: Mrs. Grace Bartlett, Stewart W. Goodwin.

60 years ago: State Senator Henry W. Boyker was slightly injured when his car was struck by another vehicle as he entered the driveway to his home.

Sheriff James Lassiter announced that five two-way radios had been authorized for the Oxford County Sheriff's Department. They were installed in the cars of the sheriff and the four permanent officers.

Deaths: D. Grover Brooks 70 years ago: Charles Tuell, Harold and Lawrence Young went to Ormand Beach, FL where they were employed.

80 years ago: The Bethel Boy Scouts went to Berlin to the movie "Collegiate."

H. F. Thurston & Son gave each of its employees a chicken at Christmas time.

Asa Sessions was uninjured when his car left the road near Poplar Tavern. The car was badly damaged.

Deaths: Mrs. Etta Gulliver, Alton L. Day, Mrs. Charles Stowell.

90 years ago: A young lady who was a holiday guest at Bethel Inn had the misfortune to break her leg while sliding on the toboggan chute.

A large crowd attended the dance held at the Bethel Grange Hall.

Deaths: Mrs. Mary Agnes Barrows, E. P. Farrington. 110 years ago: Whooping cough was prevalent in the village.

Mr. Edward Carter of Bethel was at work on a contract for 3,000,000 feet of spruce to be cut for the Berlin Mills Co. in the Richardson Lakes region.

The Bethel Citizen

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Woodstock celebrates 200th

Woodstock observed its bicentennial twice during 2015. A kickoff event took place on Feb. 7, the 200th anniversary of the town charter. It featured historic displays, the reading of old town documents and personal stories and remembrances from many citizens, some dressed in attire from the past. A larger, daylong celebration took place June 20 and featured a parade, cookout, fireworks and other activities.

Changing faces

2015 saw changes of leadership at Telstar High School and in Newry. THS Principal Ann Bell left for a superintendency position, and was replaced by Dean of Students Cheryl Land (who was succeeded by Kristin Dacko). In Newry, Town Administrator Loretta Powers left to move to Florida, and was to be succeeded by Paris Town Manager Amy Bernard.

Greenwood goes TIF

At their annual Town Meeting in May, Greenwood residents approved a tax increment financing district proposal. Town officials said that establishing a TIF district would allow taxes collected on any increased property valuations in the district in the future to be sheltered from inclusion in calculating the county tax share and the state education funding formula as it pertains to SAD 44 and Greenwood. Those funds could then go toward economic development/infrastructure improvements, some in connection with improvements at Mt. Abram. With approval, specific future plans will go through the town's Budget Committee and then to public hearing and annual Town Meeting votes.

Sports accomplishments

In the summer two local baseball teams had considerable success in the playoffs. The Bethel Junior American Legion Bobcats won the state championship and advanced to the Northeast Regional Tournament. The 13U Regional Tri-County Babe Ruth Team won the New England Championship and advanced to the World Series in New York, where they finished national runners-up. In winter sports, Telstar graduate Frank DelDuca was named in the fall to the U.S. Bobsled Team.

Bethel

By DON BENNETT



Bethel's history of visions, subdivisions and Comp Plan issues

Bringing Bethel's 1998 Comprehensive Plan up to date seems to have hit a roadblock. I was really impressed with the 1998 reports; the seemed to cover the ground very well. The current Comprehensive Plan committee membership and copies of the 1998 Comprehensive Plan are available online from the Town of Bethel website, www.bethelmaine.org. However, the tremendous amount of information contained in such a report would seem to call for a full time staff member who was fully knowledgeable of census sources of information and town records.

Five examples of community visions that came to fruition: 1886 Bethel Chair Factory; 1894 Bethel Grammar School; 1965 Bethel Fire Station; 1986 Bethel Inn Conference Center; also in 1986 Bethel Family Health Center.

The comprehensive quality of these five examples lay in the fact that they

created jobs and expanded Bethel public facilities, improved public health and safety and bettered the village learning facilities of their time.

Visions
Looking back at the period from 1886 until now much of the "vision" came from entrepreneurs looking to increase for profit businesses (and fill their rental properties), public officials and organizations like the Grange; for example: wood product industries, school restructuring, changing from district to town schools, corn canning and creamery industries; school location issues and departure of Gould Academy from its role as town high school; the development of a school administrative district; historic preservation and historical society; water sources and supply; sewer requirements; fire station and special rescue equipment updating, community park development such as Davis Park, Bethel Recreation Committee programs, the Skateboard Park, the in progress basketball court, the Bethel Pathway and bridge (although the latter two were originally funded as part of the Bethel Station project) for walking and snowmobiling.

Has made conscientious efforts toward meeting the needs of a multi-generational community that include environmental conservation while maintaining a healthy individualized economic base, education, spirit, health, character, housing and work opportunities;

Has strived to maintain a balance between residential, economic and commercial needs while preserving its historic district; Main Street and natural beauty. Above all, our next generation will want to live in Bethel and be able to afford to.

Subdivisions - plenty in Bethel

2010 was the 30th anniversary of the first application of Bethel's new (in 1980) Subdivision Regulations. Dana C. Douglass was chairman of the Bethel Planning Board; he wrote in the town's 1980 annual report that the new regulations found prompt

Abolishing zoning in 1968 may have made Bethel rely on a Comprehensive Plan more so that if it had zoning ordinances. In some cases the state requires a town comprehensive plan for certain town-planned actions to be enacted.

The 1998 Comprehensive Plan Volume II looks at many valid considerations and discussed each topic:

Small town character and the physical beauty of scenic views, rivers and wildlife; educational opportunities; historic buildings and areas that have maintained their values; a citizenry consisting of people with Yankee pride, ingenuity, volunteerism and tolerance; and an economy in transition from manufacturing to services and growth stimulated by the Sunday River Ski Resort.

Today, Bethel is seen by its citizens as many different things. The Bethel of tomorrow will be the result of many factors. This Comprehensive Plan is intended to establish a vision for Bethel's future taking into consideration many divergent views.

In the broadest sense, the Comprehensive Plan envisions a Bethel that:

Is a community with a small town "feeling" having a town center without traffic problems allowing people to walk to services in safety;

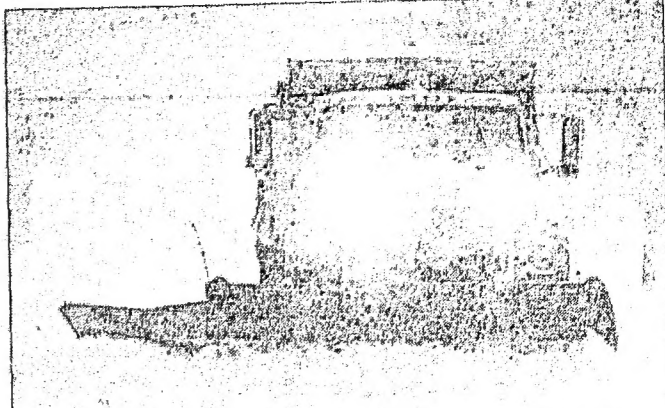
Is a community that has maintained its heritage and quality of life consisting of environmental quality, leisure, cultural and recreation opportunities, manufacturing, business development and economic growth; Has maintained its integrity and those characteristics, that make it special as it grows while respecting private property;

Has made conscientious efforts toward meeting the needs of a multi-generational community that include environmental conservation while maintaining a healthy individualized economic base, education, spirit, health, character, housing and work opportunities;

Has strived to maintain a balance between residential, economic and commercial needs while preserving its historic district; Main Street and natural beauty. Above all, our next generation will want to live in Bethel and be able to afford to.

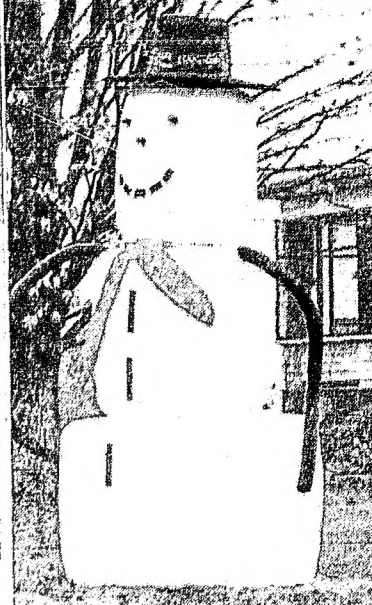
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IMPROVISATION, AND THEN THE REAL THING—With not a flake of snow to be found in Bethel through Christmas, the McCrum farm in Mayville found a way to build a "snowman" in the front yard. On Tuesday morning, Mother Nature came through and a Bethel plow truck was busy on Church Street around dawn

A. Aloisio, D. Bennett



application to develop plans submitted by:

(1) Norris Brown and Norman Greig for the Dole Woods Subdivision on the Bailey Road; (2) Ruel Swain and Stuart Cross for a subdivision off Chandler Hill Road; and (3) Dictar Associates for a low-income elderly house project involving reconstruction and extension of the former Thunderbird (Inn) property on Main Street (Bethel House).

Second home development began in the Sunday River Ski Area domain soon after the ski area opened in 1959-60. Three second home "villages" sprang up soon after 1960: "Viking Village" near the Barker Mountain Lodge, with Walter Cherry of Bethel building the first chalet in the 1960s. By the end of the 1975-76 seasons another 45 lot development known as "Sunday River Village" was proposed. And "Coombs Village" which began as Investment Enterprises (Burton Newton, I believe) with second homes built after 1960 covered the former Littlehale/Sweeney pasture between the Sunday River Road and Barker Brook. The first phase of South Ridge Condominiums was completed by the end of 1978.

- Source: Newry Profiles by Paula Wight.
In Bethel the Sunday River developments seemed to inspire condo and subdivision developments. Based largely on planning board details reported in Bethel Annual Reports from 1980 to 2009 (and agenda for 2010), it looked like 76 subdivision applications moved through the planning board in the those 30 years. The two booms before the busts stand out in that the largest number of applications were reported in 1988, (9), and then in 2005, (9) and 2006 (11) were reported. From 2010 to 2014 another eight subdivisions were approved.

Along with subdivision applications, condo projects were coming in for

approval. These projects followed the Sunrise and later condos built in the 1980's after Les Otten had acquired Sunday River. In the 1988 annual report, planning board chairman Reggie Brown reported applications for 201 condominium units (Bethel Inn, Eden Ridge, etc.) and 173 subdivision lots. The 1998 Comprehensive Plan Section 1 showed the 1990 number of housing units was 1,266 and by 1998's report and additional 135 new units had been added. And even in 1990, 212 units were for seasonal or recreational use.

In the early 1990s farms with fields and buildings were sold to out of state buyers for second homes, much as is happening today.

The change in the last of the 20th century was that now the buyer acquired the farm or woodlot and subdivided it. Many of these newly created lots in Bethel stand unsold or the owner has not yet decided to build on the lot. A significant number of the Bethel subdivision lots are owned by out of towners. For instance in our case our large wood lot of 1990, now Birch Wood, is a mixture of residential and second homes. One clear result has been the growth in property maintenance jobs since 1990.

One of the major factors in planning for the future is to acknowledge (1) much of the real estate property in Bethel today is owned by non residents and (2) that residents of West Bethel, East Bethel, South Bethel and eastern Middle Interval do not necessarily see themselves as getting a fair return on their tax dollars from future planning as would "the villagers."

Finally the 1998 Plan notes Bethel's regional coordination responsibilities such as: Economic Growth and Development; Transportation/Highway Improvements; Water Quality; Affordable Housing; Transit Link and Outdoor Recreation.

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN



This was a Christmas week to remember. Unlike some areas of the country, Maine had beautiful weather; 57 degrees here in Bethel.

When I drove by Davis Park in the afternoon the parking lot was full: people were walking (some with their dogs), skateboarding, and bicycling.

There was a rare full moon on Christmas. The moon was bright and high in the sky and did not set until long after 7 a.m. on Boxing Day. The last time there was a full moon on Christmas Day was 38 years ago in 1977; the next time will be 2034. Now it appears that we will end the year with ice/snow/freezing rain. Probably by the end of January we will be knee-deep in snowshoeing and cross country skiing. I wish you all a Happy New Year.

One of the best things about Christmas Day was the price of gasoline in Bethel. I bought regular unleaded gas at the Railroad Street Citgo station for \$1.93 a gallon. The gasoline at the other Bethel stations was also below \$2.00 a gallon that day.

My family and I visited Riverside Cemetery on Christmas Day. Sadly we found several gates wide open and broken beer bottles and trash scattered along the outside fence. In the winter the cemetery trustees close and secure the gates.

Many cemeteries close their gates in the winter for several reasons. Driving on frozen or muddy ground damages the roadways, and after snow falls, there is the danger motor vehicles may hit and damage not only grave stones but graves as well. Securing the gates prevents them from being hit by snowplows; the gates

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New Year's Eve

SOUPS
Apple Jack Onion Soup \$7
Seafood Bisque cup \$4 bowl \$6

SALADS
Garden \$4 • Caesar \$7 • Greek \$7

APPETIZERS
Seafood Cocktail \$10 • Crab Cakes \$9
Mediterranean Artichokes \$7
Stuffed Mushroom Caps \$7

ENTREES
Baked Haddock \$18 • Scallops Nantucket \$22
Filet Mignon Trio \$26 • Baked Stuffed Shrimp \$22
Boothbay Fettuccini \$26 • Lobster Casserole \$24
Raspberry Walnut Chicken \$20
Grilled Sicilian Eggplant \$16

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are old and need to be tied shut. Visitors can enter on foot from either end of the cemetery. If you choose to break the ties on the gate, please tie the gate shut when you leave. This is distressing to me not only because I have many relatives and friends buried at Riverside, but because every cemetery should be respected and maintained, not just for the occupants but for the living who come to visit. Our cemeteries are also historical records. Local cemeteries always do a spring and fall clean-up. I always assumed this meant picking up the old flower arrangements, raking leaves, and other similar chores. I guess it also means cleaning up bottles, cans, candy wrappers, and coffee cups. On Christmas we walked the length of the cemetery, secured the gates, and removed the trash. Now that I've mentioned this, I will get down from my soapbox.

Story Time for children at the Bethel Library will resume on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. at the library, which is located at 5 Broad Street. A parent or caregiver must accompany children. The library is looking for parents, grandparents, and volunteers who would like to read or sing to children during Story Time. Please call Michelle at the library at 824-2520 if you'd like to volunteer.

East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ



It is hard to believe that this is the last column of 2015. I would like to thank all who participate in helping me to write the news and all who take the time to read it. This is also a good time to ask your input for changes and improvements you would like to see, like should I continue with the Trivia about East Bethel-only questions, or open it up to more topics, or discontinue it completely? I would love to hear from you. So call 507-1008 or e-mail heinrichcracker@gmail.com.

Lee and Jennifer Norris, Ryan Stowell, Jarrod, Paige, Teddy, Jocelyn and Foster Crockett joined their mother/grandmother, Aline Dupont, for a wonderful Christmas dinner in East Bethel.

ner in East Bethel.

Though I could not reach Bettyann Hastings, I doubt that she and Sonny mind my sharing a posting on Facebook about their granddaughter Summer Franklin. It is the link to The Conversations Magazine's 25 Recording Artists you should know (2016): CONVERSATIONSMAG.BLOGSPOT.COM.

Check it out. They must be so proud of her and rightly so.

Now to the answer to the Trivia: John Decatur (J.D.) Hastings' brother was Gideon Hastings. He lived on the Asa Kimball homestead in East Bethel.

I want to wish everyone all the best, good fortune, happiness and good health for 2016.

Happy New Year.

West Bethel

By KAREN PAUL



Umbagog Lake is still open with no ice in sight which is the latest on record. I have

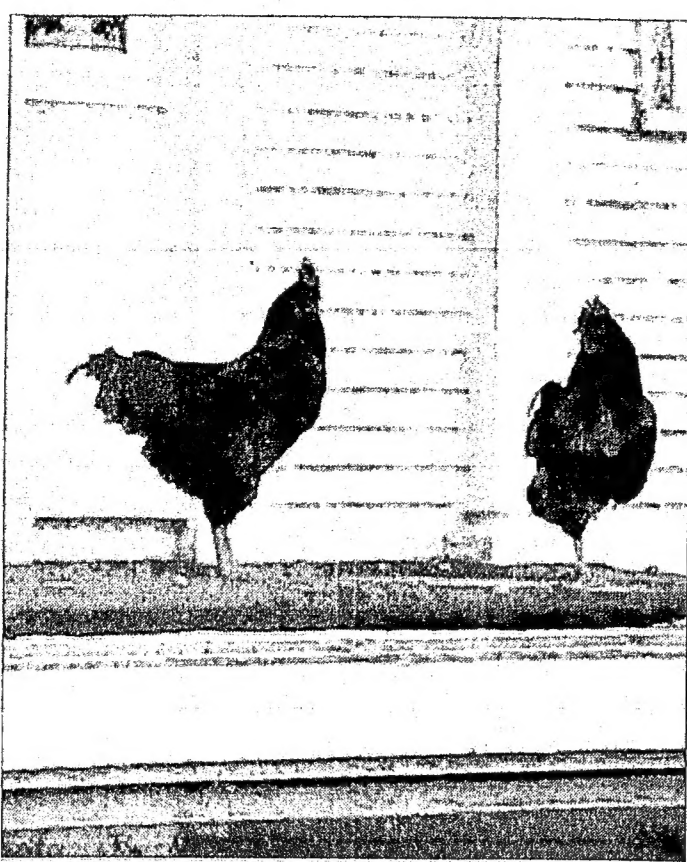
noticed many other lakes and ponds in the area which are still open. As I write there is still no snow on the ground, although there is a storm warning for tonight and tomorrow with snow and some freezing rain predicted.

It was so warm Christmas day that I wore no jacket on my daily walk. The hike took us through the woods off Rt. 2 between Sparrowhawk and the Flat Road. My mom and I loved to visit with each other and often walked this road. I was surprised the road was still open and in such good shape.

On my walk today, I nearly froze as I had gotten used to the warm weather. The weather changed in the night with the old north wind howling around my back door. When I stepped outside I noticed finally the ground was feeling solidly frozen. I went to town in the evening and met a woman visiting Bethel to ski and felt disappointed that there was no snow. Hopefully tonight will bring a beautiful blanket for the outdoor sports enthusiasts.

May your week be blessed with good works and happy people.

Contact me at paulkmarie@gmail.com or 836-2266.



WHY DID THE CHICKENS CROSS THE ROAD? To get to Stan Howe's porch, of course. This pair of roosters appeared on Howe's porch on Broad Street in Bethel over the weekend, after first spending some time on the Common. Once safe on the porch from the rain, the two birds commenced a crowing contest at about 4 a.m. in the morning, Howe said, which did not endear him to his neighbors. He was, however, concerned for their well-being and gave them grain and water. After some calling around, the owners were found on Monday and came to retrieve the pair. Howe dubbed the incident, "The Rooster Ruckus."

Sue Howe

Andover

By JANE RICH



As I sit here on Sunday afternoon, the snow is coming down and is very fine. Quite a contrast from yesterday when I was walking around the snowless common in the sunshine. So it appears winter is here at last with the forecast of more snow on Tuesday. Evidently, Joe Bernier's snow dance has had the proper effect.

Some reminders from the Town Office: License your dog. Bring proof of spaying or neutering and a valid rabies certificate. Nomination Papers are now available for offices to be filled in March at annual Town Meeting. There are two three-year terms for the Andover School Board available and one position as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, also a three-year term. Selectman Keith Farrington informed the board at a recent meeting that he is not seeking re-election. Nomination papers must be returned by Feb. 8 at 9 a.m.

The three positions mentioned above are vital to the government of our town and somewhere out there are people interested in the school or town day-to-day operations that can do a great service to the community. Are you one of those people? Please think about it.

This is the time when the selectmen talk about Town Meeting and the Town Report and an idea for the cover. The selectmen settled on the idea of asking our school children to draw pictures, providing this can fit in with scheduled classes. Final decision to be made with school staff following vacation. Of course there will be a prize for the person whose drawing is used.

Christmas having come and gone and people visiting families and friends, there is not much news, so I conclude with this which I remember from a piece of poetry that now I can't find. It was called "I Am the New Year" and in it we are reminded that the year which is 2016 is at this point a blank page and we, each of us, has the power to write a very different story that we did in 2015. So put away regrets, ask for forgiveness where necessary and resolve to be a better person caring for your brothers and sisters, the whole human family is whatever way that presents itself to you.

We all have much power to do good in our world so in need of mercy, forgiveness and love. In 2016 may you be on the receiving end of those attributes.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN



Happy New Year! As I write this on Sunday afternoon, it is raining and rather dismal. Not as dismal as the weather predicted for Tuesday. I was hoping to at least make it through 2015 without snow.

My brother, Steve McLain, is enjoying a few days off from SAD 44 during Christmas break. On the days that they do work, they are checking over the school buses while they are not in use.

Last Sunday, we spotted a little chipmunk out in front of the house. A chipmunk will come out in the winter if the weather is mild enough. We have even seen them in January.

Steve and Lise McLain enjoyed Christmas dinner with their son and wife, Brad McLain and Carole Mason. Their son, Stephen, called to wish them a Merry Christmas from him and his family. He reports that they are all doing well.

Our grandson, Ben Chapman, called us on Christmas Day to wish us a Merry Christmas. He is home in Ellsworth for a break from the US Coast Guard Academy. He has to return by Jan. 3 for his final semester. His graduation is in May and then he will be off to more adventures wherever his assignment is.

Hugh and I celebrated Christmas last Saturday at Tim and Michele's house in Gorham, N.H. All of the grandchildren, William, Annie, Ajay and Sidney, were there along with Michele's parents, Leo and Ann Croteau. After everyone, (including Chloe, the dog), opened their presents, a delicious dinner cooked by Tim and Michele was enjoyed. Michele and Sidney had baked all week, so there were plenty of treats to choose from.

Mary Tyler enjoyed Christmas in Berlin, N.H. with several members of her family. To name a few: Merle Cole, Sr.; Merle Cole, Jr. and daughter, Addy; Jeff and Brenda Bergeron and family, Morgan, Brenden, Mariah.

Town Office
The books close on Dec. 31 and then the work begins to gather information

for the Annual Town Report. The selectmen will be working on the budget for 2016.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or email chapmal@hotmail.com

Hanover

By MARIA HOLLOWAY



Eagle Scout celebration
All are invited to join in the celebration of Keith Harrington's Eagle Scout celebration. You are welcomed to a party on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 from 7pm-9pm at the West Parish Congregational Church on Church St. in Bethel.

Keith was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout this past November. After 11 years of scouting, Keith sat before the Pine Tree Council Board of Review on Veterans Day and underwent two hours of interviewing on matters concerning his Eagle Scout Project, Scouting values, leadership, honor, and giving back to Scouting. The Picnic Pavilion, adjacent to the Library and Hanover Town Office, was Keith's Eagle Scout project and a beautiful gift to our Town.

When asked how he felt about receiving this honor, Keith said, "I am very happy and proud of myself. I will still stay involved in Scouts and participate in future Scouting activities." We are proud of you, Keith, and of all your accomplishments. Thank you for giving to the Town of Hanover and congratulations for having achieved your Eagle Scout Rank. We look forward to celebrating this great achievement.

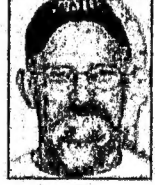
Reminder from Town Office

Property taxes paid by today, Dec. 31, will receive a 2 percent reduction.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year! See you in 2016.

Upton

By JOE BERNIER



I have not received a confirmation of the date that the Ladies Aid will begin serving Sunday breakfasts.

Ice fishing season opens January first. If you plan to try it, I recommend that you either choose very shallow water (two feet or less) or provide your own ice.

Happy New Year to you all.

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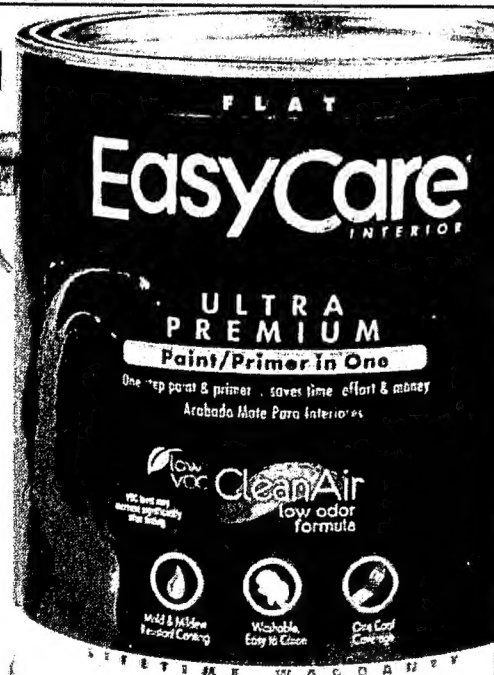
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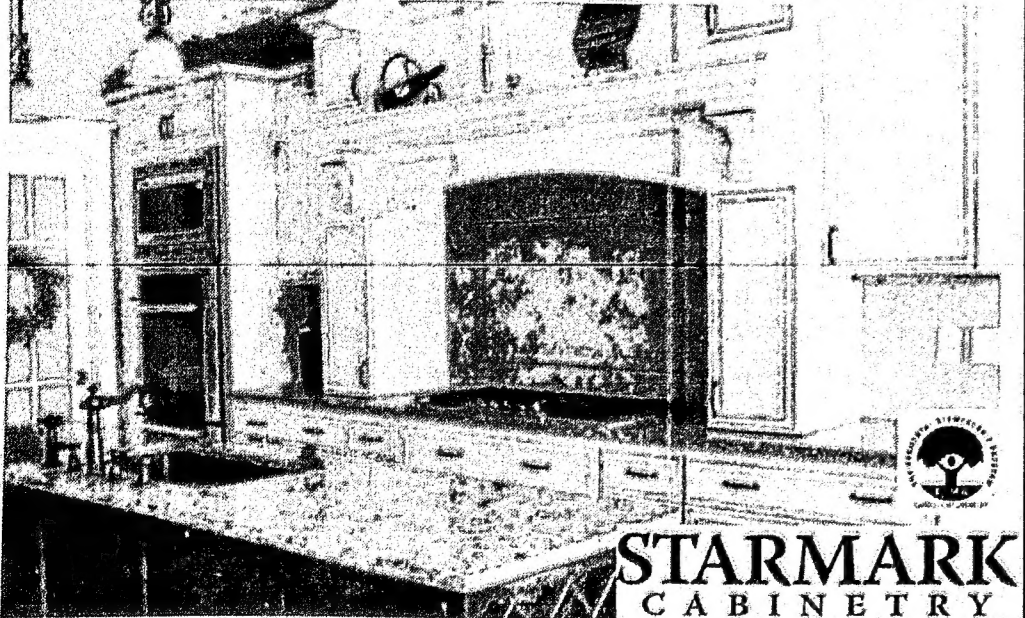
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The Way I See It

by Sharon Bouchard

I hope that all of you had a really nice Christmas, sharing good times with family and friends making the holiday extra special. I'm sure that like me you over-indulged on Christmas goodies, especially fudge. In fact, I'm still over indulging on fudge.

In my home we had a wonderful Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. With my kids and grandkids around me I unwrapped a lot of presents and had a lot of laughs and basked in the glow of the lights on the tree and the love of my family.

As much of a Norman Rockwell Christmas as it seems it was, it wasn't without a few disconcerting moments for me and probably more disconcerting for my family. I know my grandkids are now wondering if Mimi is finally losing her marbles.

The first raised eye brows came when my grandson Reese opened a gift of pretty pink pajamas meant for his mother Renee. I saw it as a simple mistake in reading the tag. After all, I admit my eyesight isn't what it used to be and Renee and Renee are not that far apart. A mistake that anyone could make.

There were a few chuck-

les around the room over this, but when I called my grandson Tristan by my other grandson's name, which is Elijah, peals of laughter broke out all around.

I apologized to both of the boys, explaining that I was just excited having all the family together and a little slip-up was no big deal.

However, when I called my son, whose name is

I remember how my mother, when upset, would go through all the kids' name and most of the pets' until she got the right one.

Doug, by grandson Reese's name it was decided that Mimi is indeed losing it. Book a room at the Funny Farm right away.

I'm sure these little name goof-ups will find their way into the family history; "Remember the Christmas when Mimi lost her marbles?" the grandkids will say.

I consoled myself by re-

membering how hard I had worked with the baking, candy making, shopping and wrapping. I was, in fact, right out straight for the days leading up to the big one and I certainly do get more tired than I used to under such circumstances. I admit to senior moments, but I am not losing my marbles.

I remember how my mother, when upset, would go through all the kids' name and most of the pets' until she got the right one. The older she got the more often this happened, even when we didn't have any pets. I certainly haven't reached that point, at least not yet. There is going to be a New Year's Eve gathering at my house for pizza and Trivial Pursuit and I am tempted to make name tags for everyone. That's assuming that I can match the correct tag with the right person.

Going into the new year I will not make any resolutions because I always break them, but I will set a goal of finding my lost marbles by next Christmas.

And, the way I see it, have one other goal and that is to wish all of you a very healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

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Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT



Franklin Grange #124 will meet Saturday, Jan. 2 at the home of Alice Hoyt. A 10

a.m. meeting and pot luck lunch are planned. Please bring a dish to share.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15 for all ages, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Services at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service; also Bloom for Girls 13 to 18 and Foundations for Guys 15 years and up.

Saturday, Dec. 19 the men had their Fellowship Breakfast with 12 attending. Jan. 12 at 9 a.m. is the next Ladies' Coffee Cup Devotions.

All ladies are invited. Tentative date for the annual meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 6 p.m.

Sympathy is extended to town manager Vern Maxfield and family on the loss



The Telstar Winter Concert took place Dec. 15, with bands and choruses from the high and middle schools. Above left front, THS singers Ben Wiggen, Christian Brown and Reese Rosenberg; right, Dharma Damon.

of his mother. Not much news this week. Wishing all of you a Happy and Healthy New Year. If you have news call 665-2460 or write to P.O. Box 105.

Locke's Mills

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN



I never would have guessed that I'd be kayaking on North Pond on Christ-

mas Day, but that's exactly what I did this year. I wasn't the only one out for a paddle in the middle of that 55-degree afternoon, either; Cathy Newell reported seeing several kayakers in the vicinity of Rock Island.

Tony and I also went for a walk on the Mann Road with Annie and Caitlin, our dog, Remy, and our grand-dog, Lu, and we saw several other groups of people out walking, too. I can remember a few winters when we didn't have

snow at Christmas, but I don't think I can remember ever having a Christmas when the ground hadn't frozen, the ponds were still open, and we could be outside in shirt-sleeves.

Looking ahead to the 10-day forecast as I write this on Monday afternoon, it looks like that stretch of warm and snowless weather has come to an end. It was about 20 degrees colder than the day before when I got up, and snow is predicted for the whole state on Tuesday, followed by more seasonable temperatures. Both of those things will make the skiers happy, and even though I've enjoyed not having to think about bundling up or driving on slick roads, I wouldn't be living in Maine if I couldn't en-

joy—or at least tolerate—a real winter.

Three people in our household received gift certificates to The Local Hub for Christmas. My daughters and I enjoyed a late breakfast/early lunch there on Sunday, and I look forward to more of their delicious food in the near future.

What are your plans for New Year's Eve? It's not an introvert's favorite holiday, to put it mildly. My own plans never involve going out, and rarely involve staying up to see the new year in at midnight. Although I may not be a fan of New Year's Eve, I am a huge fan of the concept of starting a new year with all of the best intentions, and trying to do everything right that I got wrong in the previous year. So I'm making a few resolutions, most of which are fairly dull and predict-

able and involve things like health and exercise and becoming more organized. Does anyone have any more interesting resolutions to share?

I also always think of the approaching new year as a great time to start home renovation projects, or, at the very least, rearrange some furniture. This year, we'll be working toward getting an apartment ready to rent out in part of our house, and then, we hope, another one on the second floor of the barn. (If you saw our barn, you'd know that we have lots of work to do before that one becomes a reality.)

It doesn't seem as if three people should need as much space as six people needed when all the kids were still at home, but it's still hard to figure out what to do with all of our extra stuff—and that's after getting rid of a lot of things this fall.

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope 2016 is a good one.

Newry

By DOUG WEBSTER



I hope everyone had a great Christmas. It was a fine day for travel-

ling; my family and I went down to the coast to spend the day with my sister and her family. We had a wonderful meal and great conversation around the table.

The town's road committee has been looking at and analyzing the Sunday River Road from the Monkey Brook intersection out to the Letter S swimming hole. They recently had an informational meeting to

OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 22
At 8:14 p.m. Deputies Steve Witham and Nathan Bowie responded to the East Bethel Road in Bethel for a report of an unwanted person.

Wednesday, Dec. 23
At 8:42 a.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald called for extra traffic control on the West Bethel and Flat roads in Bethel to slow down pulp trucks that were entering the 35 mph zone too fast.

At 2:48 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald was advised of an incident of telephone harassment. He spoke with both parties and issued a warning.

Thursday, Dec. 24
At 10:14 a.m. Deputy Josh Daley received a report of trespassing and vandalism on Songo Pond Road in Bethel. He met with the complainant.

At 8:57 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald and Sgt. Tim Holland responded to a tractor trailer accident on Route 2 in Hanover.

Friday, Dec. 25
At 9:59 p.m. Deputies Matt McDonnell and Dere MacDonald responded to a Bethel location for a report of a burglary in progress. They arrived and checked the area for a male in a black jacket, intoxicated, with a bottle of alcohol. There was no contact.

OCSD Jail Log

Dec. 24, 5:49 a.m.: Shana T. Dutterer, 22, of Bethel, DV assault, failure to pay fines; by Deputy Josh Aylward in Bethel.

Dec. 24, 12:30 a.m.: Michael B. Vaserman, 47, of Framingham, Mass., criminal trespass, disorderly conduct; by Deputy Andy Whitney in Newry.

Dec. 27, 4:42 a.m.: Mark P. Matheson, 21, of Norway, OUI; by Deputy Josh Aylward in Greenwood.

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The buffet is from 5-9pm
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January 1st, 2nd, 3rd

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Country Fresh Bone-In Pork Roast	\$1.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack Bnls Chicken Breast	\$1.47	Per Pound
Country Fresh FP Boneless Pork Sirloin Steak	\$1.47	Per Pound
USDA Inspected FP 73% Ground Beef	\$1.87	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack Fresh Bone-In Chicken Thighs	\$1.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack Fresh Boneless Chicken Thighs	\$1.47	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack Fresh Boneless Chicken Tenders	\$1.97	Per Pound
Country Fresh Whole Boneless Pork Loin	\$1.97	Per Pound
Country Fresh Boneless Pork Center Cut Pork Chops	\$2.27	Per Pound
Country Fresh Family Pack Boneless Pork Country Style Ribs	\$2.27	Per Pound
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USDA Inspected Choice Boneless Family Pack Top Round Steaks	\$2.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Choice Boneless Top Round Roast	\$2.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Choice Boneless Shoulder Roast	\$2.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Choice Boneless Family Pack London Steaks	\$2.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Choice Boneless Family Pack Top Blade Steaks	\$2.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack T-Bone Steaks	\$4.97	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Family Pack Porterhouse Steaks	\$5.47	Per Pound
USDA Inspected Boneless Family Pack Strip Steaks	\$5.97	Per Pound
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New Year's Eve

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FIVE LARGE SHRIMP WITH TRADITIONAL COCKTAIL SAUCE

BAKED BRIE

BABY BRIE WRAPPED IN PUFF PASTRY WITH RASPBERRY COULIS

MAINE CRAB CAKES

ROCK CRABMEAT HAND FORMED, SAUTÉED AND SERVED WITH SAUCE REMOULADE

SWEET POTATO AND CRAB BISQUE

A CREAM BASED SOUP INFUSED WITH SWEET POTATOES AND CRABMEAT

ENTREES

(ALL SERVED WITH HOUSE SALAD, ROLLS, VEGETABLES AND APPROPRIATE STARCH)

BRILLED SEAFOOD SAMPLER

MAINE LOBSTER, HADDOCK, SEA SCALLOPS AND SHRIMP BROILED IN A LEMON MÂITRE D' BUTTER AND WINE.

SLICED TENDERLOIN OF BEEF

SERVED WITH A WILD MUSHROOM BORDELAISE SAUCE.

MUSHROOM LASAGNA

GRILLED POTATO PANCAKES SANDWICHED WITH A COMBO OF FRESH SAUTÉED SHITAKE, BUTTON AND PORTABELLA MUSHROOMS IN A RICH CREAM SAUCE WITH BELL PEPPERS, ONIONS AND TOMATOES.

OSO BUCCO

VEAL SHANK PAN SEARED AND SLOW ROASTED, FINISHED WITH A WILD MUSHROOM SAUCE.

RACK OF LAMB

PAN SEARED AND ROASTED 7 BONE RACK OF LAMB SERVED MEDIUM RARE WITH A PORT WINE & PEPPERCORN DEMIGLACE.

ROASTED DUCK

ONE HALF OF A PLUMP DUCKLING ROASTED AND SERVED SEMIBONELESS, TOPPED WITH A MAINE MAPLE SYRUP AND WILD BLUEBERRY GLAZE.

ATLANTIC SALMON

ALMOND ENCRUSTED SALMON FINISHED WITH CHOCOLATE INFUSED HONEY SOY SAUCE.

CHICKEN MARENGO

CHICKEN MEDALLIONS SAUTÉED WITH MUSHROOMS, ONIONS, SHRIMP AND TOMATO IN A LIGHT DEMIGLACE.

FINALE

CRÈME BRÛLÉE
PROFITEROLE FILLED HOMEMADE ICE CREAM, DRAPED IN CHOCOLATE GANACHE
CHEESECAKE WITH RASPBERRY COULIS
APPLE STRUDEL • CHOCOLATE WALNUT PIE

\$65 PER PERSON

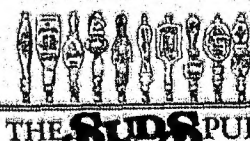
INCLUDES GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE

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ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PUB

THUR. DEC. 31
8PM:
NEW YEAR'S
HOOT NITE

FRIDAY, JAN 1
& SATURDAY, JAN 2
8PM
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JIM McLAUGHLIN
WEEKEND!



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let the public have input on the quality of road that they would like to see. Newry's C.E.O., Dave Bonney, has put together a great baseline estimate for the job. And with the committee's work and the input from the informational meeting, we now seem to have a good grasp on what the town is looking for.

Mr. Bonney presented the information to the select board, but the board seemed to be grappling with how to proceed. I don't think the board knows that they are the Road Commissioners, and it's their job to make a decision and move this project forward. The C.E.O., the committee, and the public have given their input and analysis. Now it's time for the select board to act.

The recommendation from the committee and public input was to get a bond or other financing so the project could be completed in one year and not phased over time. That way the town will be able to raise money for road

maintenance on a yearly basis, and get on a regular road resurfacing maintenance schedule.

Our new town administrator, Amy Bernard, will be in this week to get caught up on town affairs and get ready to be in full swing next week. Our current administrator Loretta Powers, will be done on Dec. 31, 2015. Ed and Retta will be relocating to Florida. Thank you guys for all you've done for the community over the years. Best of luck down in Fla. We will be thinking of you in February!

On a lighter note, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and may all your resolutions come true!

Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM



This is the last column of 2015. Next week, Jan. 1-9 is the start of a new year. A fresh slate so to speak. Monday, Jan 4 Socrates Cafe meets at the Water-

John Waller in concert

National recording artist John Waller, whose latest hit song "Crazy Faith" was featured in the critically acclaimed movie "War Room," will be giving a free concert on Sunday, Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. at Bethel Alliance Church at 251 Walkers Mills Road in Bethel. Admission is free, but a love offering will be taken.

From his early days leading the critically acclaimed band "According to John" to his impactful ministry as a solo artist, John Waller has continually used his gifts as a singer and songwriter to inspire, educate and encourage the body of Christ. With such powerful songs as "The Blessing" and "While I'm Waiting," Waller articulates what it means to live a God-centered life in a turbulent world. He continued to do so on his last album, "As For Me and My House" a potent collection of songs buoyed by Waller's insightful songwriting and compelling voice. "I don't think I could write a record in any less than a year or two years, because you really have to walk with the Lord and you have to experience life and allow the Lord to teach you something. The title track is, to me, the heart of this record," Waller says of "As For Me and My House," which joyfully declares, "we belong to the Lord, and we will not give our hearts to another."

For more information about this event, call 207-232-0966.

ford Library from 6:30-8:30. The topic is: Gun Violence and the moderator is: Robert Casimiro. Light refreshments will be served. FMI call: 583-6957 or a snow date.

Monday, Jan 4 is also the first Knit and Chat group (2-4 p.m.) at the Waterford

Library. Come and bring your knitting and enjoy some fun with friends. All are welcome. FMI: 583-2050.

Thursday, Jan. 14 there will be another age friendly community gathering 4-6 p.m. at West Parish Church in Bethel.

Democrats to meet Jan. 14

The Oxford County Democrats will hold their 2016 Campaign Kickoff on Thursday, Jan. 14, at the Eagles Hall in Rumford. The event will begin with a social time at 5 p.m., and will feature a dinner at 5:30, followed by a program. The program, featuring remarks by Speaker of the House Mark Eves and Democratic Senate Leader Justin Alford, will honor State Senator John Patrick of Rumford, Representative Matthew Peterson of Rumford, Sheriff Wayne Gallant and Register of Deeds Patricia Shearman. Bangor City Councilman Joe Baldacci and former State Senator Emily Cain of Orono, candidates for the Second Congressional District, have been invited, as well as candidates for the legislature and county offices in Oxford County.

The menu will include chicken and fixings, plus a vegetarian lasagna option. Tickets for the event are \$12 per person, \$7 for students and seniors, and may be reserved by calling 875-2116, or e-mailing info@oxforddems.org.

For updates on the Oxford County Democrats visit <https://www.facebook.com/OxfordCountyDems> or www.oxforddems.org

Sports

High School Girls' Basketball

Lisbon 50, Telstar 32; Dec. 22- Telstar played Lisbon tough in basketball action but came out on the wrong end of the contest. A balanced offense was lead by Hayley Peterson, with 10 points, Julia Cherkis with 8 points, Becca Howard with 7 points, Sadie Richardson with 5 points, and Blair Stevens with 2 points. The Rebels played well and are improving each game.

Thanks for a Great 2015

HAPPY HAPPY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Many thanks for your continued business and kind support.

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New Year's Greetings

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Spirits • Wine • Beer

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Bethel, Maine

Featuring

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New Year's Greetings

Health, wealth, happiness and all the best in the coming new year!

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Happy New Year

Join us in celebrating the new year!

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Happy New Year!

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with our **THANKS** at year's end

Thanks for contributing to our success in 2015. We're so grateful for your support and friendship.

The Bethel Citizen

207-824-2444

www.bethelcitizen.com

Hat's Off to a New Year!

—And to all of you who have given us much cause for celebration this year!

Happy New Year. See you next year!

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Closed New Year's Day

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, Dec. 31

Skosh and Fireworks at Mt. Abram Ski Area; Spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m., then Skosh live in the Loose Boots Lounge from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m., \$10 cover charge. FMI: 207-875-5000, www.mtabram.com.

Peak Dinner at Sunday River; New Year's Eve Party. FMI: 800-543-2754, www.sundayriver.com

New Year's Eve Celebration at Bethel Inn Resort; Ring in the New Year at The Bethel Inn Resort in the heart of Bethel, Maine. The evening begins with a five course dinner in our Main Dining Room, 5pm - 10pm, then the party starts in The Millbrook Tavern & Grille, downstairs at The Inn through late night. An evening of dinner, dancing & cocktails with Rob Robbins! Plus, horse drawn sleigh rides, ice skating, family activities on the Bethel Common & more. FMI: 824-2175.

PG-13 New Year's Eve Party at Sunday River; (Black Diamond Entertainment) G-Force Laser Tag, with other attractions like a photo booth, inflatable sumo wrestling, and GaGa Ball. Kids will count down to midnight (in Iceland) at 8 p.m. FMI: 800-543-2754, www.sundayriver.com

Friday, Jan. 1

32nd Carter's Last Stand Carter's XC Ski Center; Come celebrate with a New Year ski or snowshoe at Carter's Bethel location at 786 Intervale Road. Potluck lunch to follow. 207-824-3880, www.cartersxcski.com

New Year's Day at Rockin' & Roastin' Cafe and Restaurant; 9 p.m. at 9 Timberline, Newry. Aerosmith drummer, Rock 'n Roll Hall of Famer and Rockin' & Roastin' founder & chairman, Joey Kramer; blues musician, James Montgomery, and The James Montgomery Band; The Uptown Horns; more. \$55 per person. Advanced tickets required at: www.rockinandroastin-restaurant.com/tickets.

Monday, Jan. 4

Special Bethel selectmen's meeting; 5:30 p.m. at Town Office.

Socrates Café Meeting; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Waterford Library. Discussion topic: Gun violence. Moderator: Robert Casimiro. Light refreshments provided. FMI or snow date: 583-6957.

Wednesday, Jan. 6

Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club Beginner Classes; 6:30 to 7:45, Oxford Hills Middle School cafeteria, 100 Pine Street, South Paris. This is the first in a 15-week adult education program. Tuition: \$45. FMI: swinginbears.squaredanceme.us.

Thursday, Jan. 7

Story Time at the Bethel Library; 10 a.m., Bethel Library, 5 Broad Street (across from the Common). Read a story, sing, and play at the library. A parent or caregiver must accompany the child. FMI call the library at 824-2520.

Stephanie Emery Presentation; 6:30 p.m., West Paris Library. Stephanie will present a talk and show pictures from her adventures with a tour company called Adventure Bus. Her travels with Adventure Bus have taken her to all 50 states and 45 of the 50 National Parks. Stephanie's photographs of the Western National Parks are currently on display at the library. FMI: 674-2004.

Friday, Jan. 8

Red Bull Frozen Rush at Sunday River; 12 - 4 p.m. FMI: <http://sundayriver.com/events-and-activities/events-calendar/frozen-rush>

Saturday, Jan. 9

Ski Museum of Maine 2nd Annual Vintage Ski Fashion Show; 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Bethel Inn, main dining room. \$25 admission fee includes hors d'oeuvres. There will be a full cash bar. Door prizes. Proceeds will go toward establishing a Bethel satellite exhibit.

Oxford Hills Honey Bee Club's meeting; 1 p.m. at the Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, So Paris. Club members please bring beekeeping gizmos and gadgets for demonstration. There will be a brief meeting for nominations and election of officers. Public welcome. FMI contact Kevin Farr atfarrout@roadrunner.com or visit mainehoneybees.com

Sunday, Jan. 10

John Waller in Concert (Sponsored by The Lighthouse Events); 6 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walkers Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot). John Waller's songs have been featured in the movies Fireproof and War Room. The concert is free with a love offering being taken. Please join us! FMI: 207-824-2289

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Down Home Maine: A Conversation About Cuba with Richard Blanco; 4:30-6 p.m., McLaughlin Auditorium, Gould Academy. An informative conversation and Q&A with author and 2013 inaugural poet Richard Blanco about what it means to be Cuban, what it means to be American, and how he strives to "mend the two halves of himself." It will be helpful to have read Richard's poem Matters of the Sea, written for the reopening of the U.S. embassy in Havana, and its preface; both are contained in a chapbook which is available at Books 'n' Things in Norway or at the Bethel Library. Sponsored by Western Mountains Senior College; free and open to the public. FMI: 890-4812 or amy.w.chapman@gmail.com

Beginning Ukulele Class; 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. Participants should bring a ukulele and a curiosity to learn how to use it. We will cover chord playing, music reading, and singing and playing. Max-8 students. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

Beginner Fiddling; 6 to 7 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 133. Instructor: Paul Cormier. This is the first in a 6-week course series. Come and learn to play the fiddle! Paul teaches and plays in the oral tradition. He

has been playing for about 40 years. You will start out learning a simple tune and then explore ways to enhance it. He also uses a "call and response" technique where the student will mimic back what he plays. Min-4, Max-5 students. Tuition: \$160.

Beginning Guitar Class; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. Students will cover chord-playing and will be singing and playing. Bring a guitar and a curiosity to learn how to use it. Max-6 students. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Bethel Senior Citizens Meeting/Luncheon; 11 a.m., Bethel Methodist Church. This is a potluck dinner; members are asked to bring a dish to share. The auction will also be held, and members are asked to bring items to be auctioned off.

Polite Puppy/Young Dog Training; 6 to 7 p.m., Greenwood Town Hall. This is the first in a six-week course series. Open to puppies and young dogs from 12 weeks up to one year old. Learn positive methods for training your pup to politely greet people and other dogs, loose leash walking, sit, down, stay and some tricks too! This class is based on AKC Star Puppy syllabus. Bring your pup wearing a regular flat buckle collar and 4-6 foot leash. No choke chains or prong collars. Bring 2-3 cups of small, soft treats (small pieces of cheese, hot dogs, liver, purchase soft treats) A clicker will be supplied. This class is not suitable for reactive dogs. If you have question if this class is for you and your pup contact India (cobs@roadrunner.com) to discuss. India Baker KPA-CTP, is a graduate and certified training partner of Karen Pryor Academy specializing in positive training methods. FMI: www.moxiedog-training.com. Tuition: \$75.

Voice Lessons; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. This is the first in a six-week course series for people with a love of singing but no formal training, you will cover healthy use of your voice, singing solo songs and some choral music, and music reading. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

Jan. 14 and 21

First Aid/CPR Course; 6 to 10 p.m., Bethel Family Health Center. CPR includes: adult, child & infant CPR; obstructed airway. First Aid includes: burns, controlling bleeding, broken bones, poisoning, soft tissue injuries, heat & cold exposure, bandaging. You will receive a 3-year certificate in First Aid and a 1-year certificate in CPR. Limit 10 students. Instructor: Jeannine Thornton. Tuition: \$55. FMI: <http://sad44.maineadulted.org/>.

Thursday, Jan. 14

Bethel Area Prevention Task Force Meeting; 3 p.m., SAD 44 Main Office.

Age-Friendly Community Gathering; 4 to 6 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel. Hear from and talk with Amy Flowers of Analytic Insight in Lewiston regarding her analysis of data collected from over 200 Age-Friendly Community surveys.

2016 Campaign Kickoff Dinner; 5 p.m. Oxford County Democratic Committee at the Rumford Eagles Hall. Tickets \$12, Seniors and students, \$7. Reserve tickets at 875-2116 or info@oxforddemocrats.org.

Happy New Year
& Many Thanks


The
Town of
Newry
wishing
everyone
a Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year



Happy
Holidays!

Many thanks for your
patronage and support.
May your holiday be
filled with family, friends
and good times.

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and joy
surround
you in this
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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CRISSCROSS – BRIEF SENTENCES

Each word will fit into one spot in the grid. Use the starting letters as a guide and fit each word into its spot. All words will be used, so cross off each one after you put it into the grid.

2 Letters
HA!
YO!

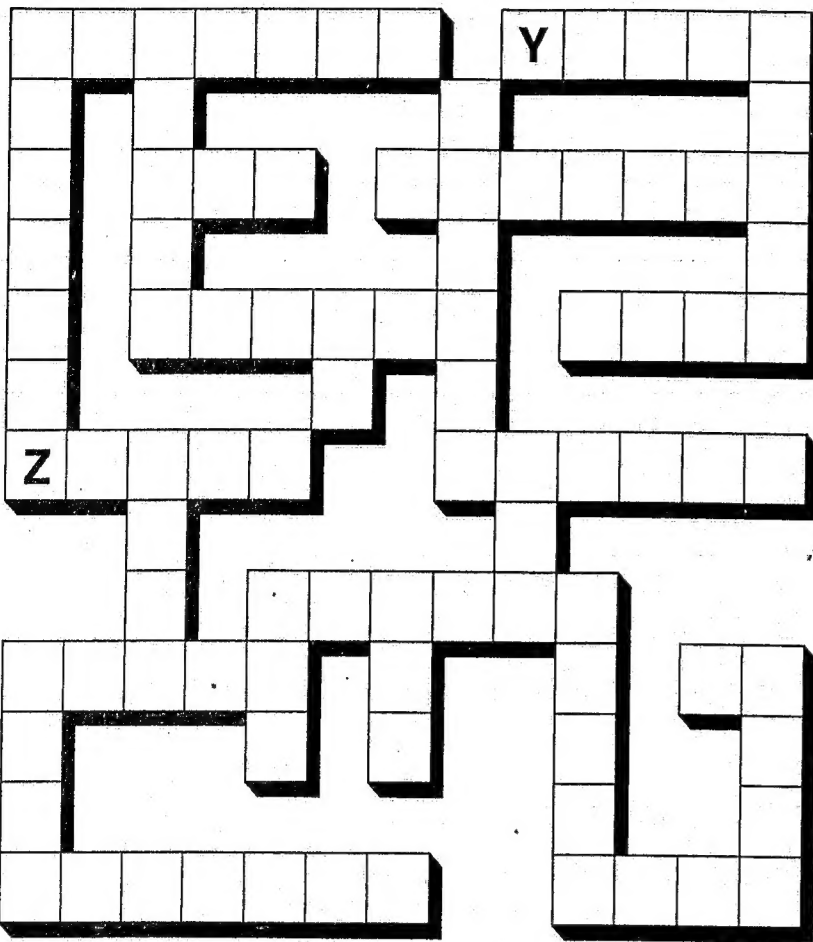
3 Letters
BAH!
BRR!
EEK!
HEY!

4 Letters
LOOK!
OH NO!
SHOO!
TA-DA!
WHAT?

5 Letters
EGADS!
LATER!
OH BOY!
SEE YA!
YIKES!
ZOWIE!

6 Letters
BYE-BYE!
GET OUT!
THANKS!
YOO-HOO!

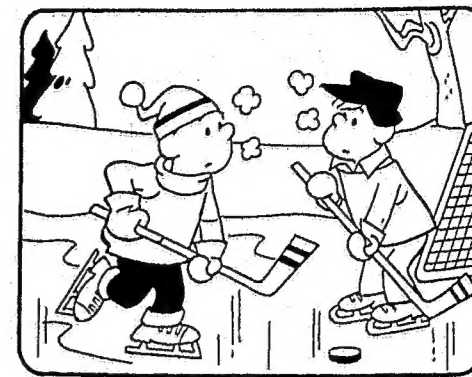
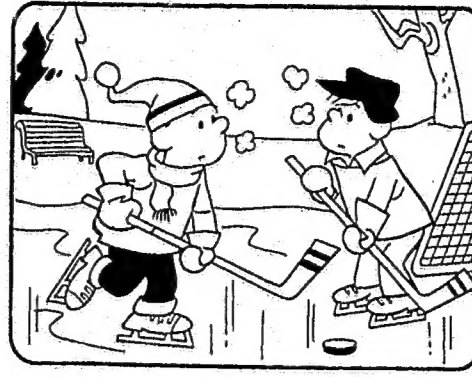
7 Letters
GEE WHIZ!
GOOD JOB!
KEEP OFF!
WELCOME!



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Bench is missing. 2. Cap is different. 3. Scarf and is missing. 4. Stick is shorter. 5. Glove is different. 6. Skates are different.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: D equals O

MNJW CDGJPDYA CFAC "VNEC

IJWOEU IDEWV EC GTON VDD

CNFKI," MDTUY VNFV PJ F

DEWVJY OKEVEOECG?

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Secure
TABLES
Blur
MARES
Forgo
BASTIAN
Prompt
DUNCIE

TODAY'S WORD

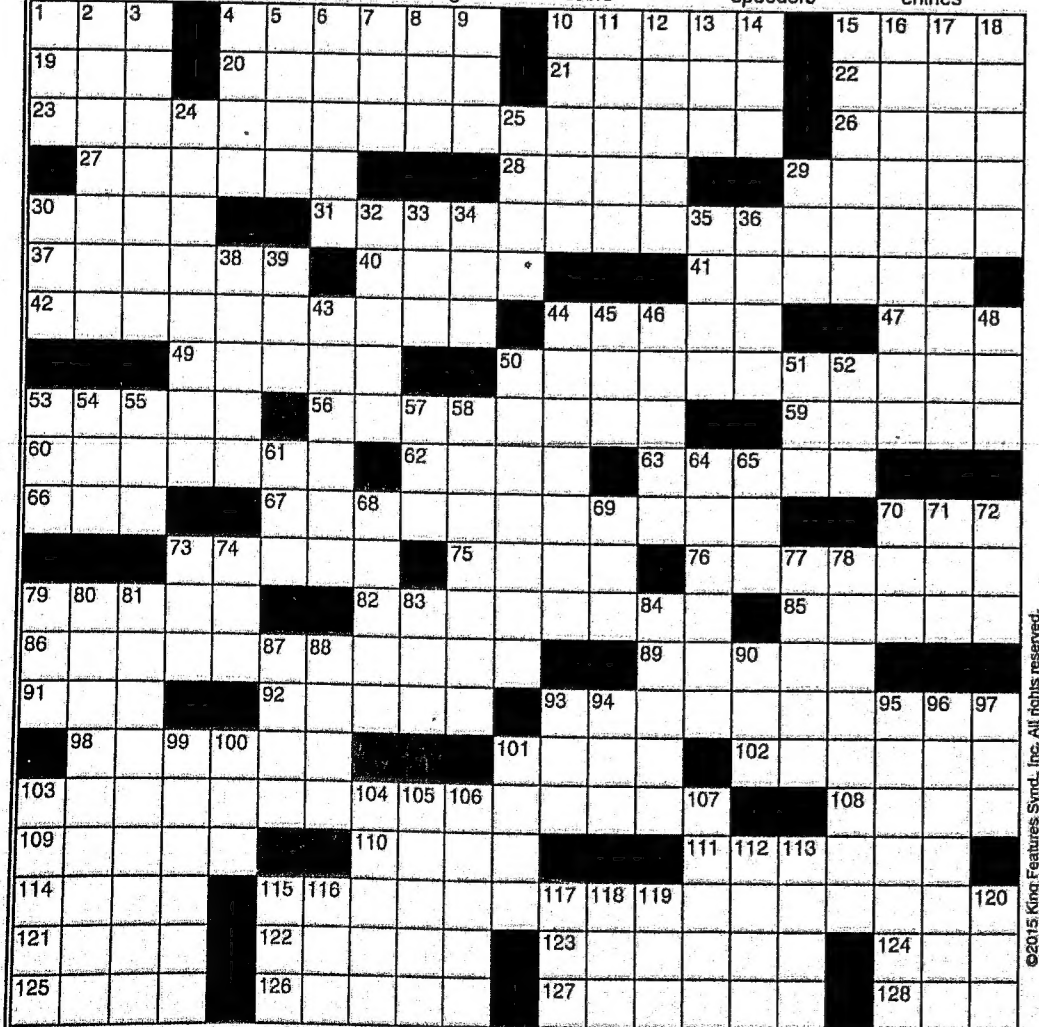


"He refuses to make a house call ... and to think of how we sacrificed to send him to _____ school."

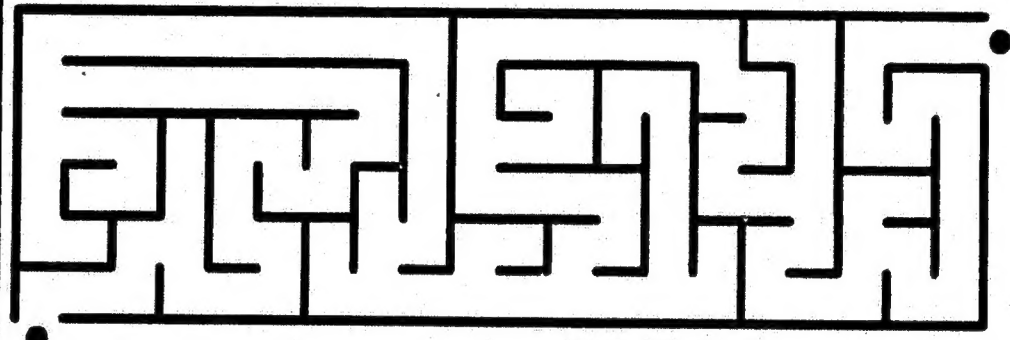
Super Crossword

A COMMON THREAD

- ACROSS
- 1 Madison Ave.
 - 4 Stocking-cap dangler
 - 10 Year the U.S. declared war on Iraq
 - 15 Store lure
 - 19 Perfecta, e.g.
 - 20 Residence-based
 - 21 Vital vessel
 - 22 Pastry decorator
 - 23 Easily seen contrast
 - 26 March Madness gp.
 - 27 Musical inaptitude
 - 28 Poet's Ireland
 - 29 Near-eternities
 - 30 — Kong
 - 31 Encore elicitor
 - 37 Ominous last words
 - 40 Frizzy dos, for short
 - 41 No longer fazed by "Blondie" or "Beetle Bailey"
 - 44 Italian for "friends"
 - 47 A Gabor sister
 - 49 Very easy, as a job
 - 50 Absent looks
 - 53 Transferable design
 - 56 Upsized or downsized
 - 59 Iraq's only port city
 - 60 "Anne of —" (1909 novel)
 - 62 English composer Thomas
 - 63 "Would that it were true!"
 - 66 Nation south of the U.S.
 - 67 Jack or king
 - 70 Tree with red berrylike fruit
 - 73 River ducks
 - 75 Garr of "Oh, God!"
 - 76 Adopt
 - 79 Pickle juice
 - 82 Brisket dish
 - 85 Toll rds.
 - 86 War fronts
 - 89 Pale yellow
 - 91 LPs
 - 92 Indiana
 - 93 Basketball
 - 94 Weapon used with a quiver
 - 98 Lay siege to
 - 101 Nickname of Israel's
 - 102 Corals, e.g.
 - 103 Incorrect inference
 - 108 Not many
 - 109 Really vexed
 - 110 Watched
 - 111 Like some
 - 114 — Il (razor brand)
 - 115 Theme of this puzzle
 - 121 Undertaking
 - 122 Emerson's middle name
 - 123 Off the mark
 - 124 "El —" (1961 epic)
 - 125 1974 CIA spoof film
 - 126 "— right with the world!"
 - 127 Take care of
 - 128 Hospital trauma ctrs.
 - 10 Lens used for close-ups
 - 11 Dominant theme
 - 12 Sister in "Three Sisters"
 - 13 "What am — think?"
 - 14 007 creator
 - 15 "Nothing Compares 2 U" singer
 - 16 Provides with furnishings
 - 17 Sloops
 - 18 Rub off
 - 24 Like many a British bishop
 - 25 Beaty and Romero
 - 29 "Pale" brew
 - 30 Ad — committee
 - 32 Agatha Christie's "A Pocket Full —"
 - 33 Geller of spoon-bending
 - 34 Trio after M
 - 35 Hockey disk
 - 36 Frat letters
 - 38 Kind of oar
 - 39 Twisty path
 - 43 Person held in bondage
 - 44 Quickly, in a score
 - 45 Alluring West
 - 46 Jaipur locale
 - 48 Tight — drum
 - 50 Flags
 - 51 Conan O'Brien's network
 - 52 Ooh and —
 - 53 Beaver's construction
 - 54 Night before
 - 55 Racing boat stealer
 - 57 Articulate
 - 58 Beastie
 - 61 MPG-rating org.
 - 64 Unfortunate short
 - 65 Phord badges, e.g.
 - 68 Jellied dish
 - 69 Covert U.S.
 - 70 Laugh loudly
 - 71 Siam or Japan suffix
 - 72 Film director
 - 73 It blasts
 - 74 Slippery fish
 - 77 Lead-in to dactyl
 - 78 Nashville amusement park of the 1970s-'90s
 - 79 Programme broadcaster
 - 80 Police setup to catch speeders
 - 81 1977 Linda Ronstadt hit
 - 83 Snackeroo
 - 84 Prefix with economic
 - 87 Grand tale
 - 88 French composer
 - 90 Cool, to a 1940s cat
 - 93 Sue Grafton's "— for Alibi"
 - 94 Baseball stat
 - 95 Via coercion
 - 96 Allresco
 - 97 Nashville-to-Memphis dir.
 - 99 Mini-meals
 - 100 G-man, e.g.
 - 101 Good friends
 - 103 Bulb units
 - 104 Playwright Eugene O'—
 - 105 Singer
 - 106 Kids' bricks
 - 107 Battery type
 - 112 Angry talk
 - 113 Savvy about
 - 115 I had a hub
 - 116 "Into the Wild" actor
 - 117 Despite that
 - 118 Cuprite, e.g.
 - 119 Tea vessel
 - 120 Dict. entries



Kids' Maze

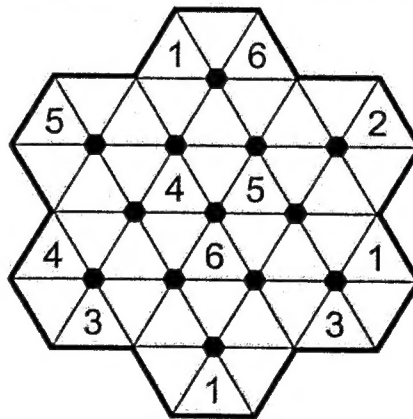


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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6	7				1
9	3			4	5		
	7				6	2	
1			3		8		
7			5				2
	3			4		7	
1			7			8	
	2	4		1	9		
		5		8			6

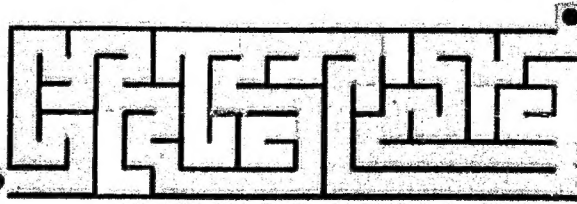
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

★★★ HOO BOY!

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Kids' Maze Solution

MEDICAL

Today's Word

3. Abstain; 4. Induce

1. Stable; 2. Smear;

solution

When somebody says "This

sharp," would that be a

pointed criticism?

answer

Cryptoquip

LOOK UP

SHOOT

YO

THANKS

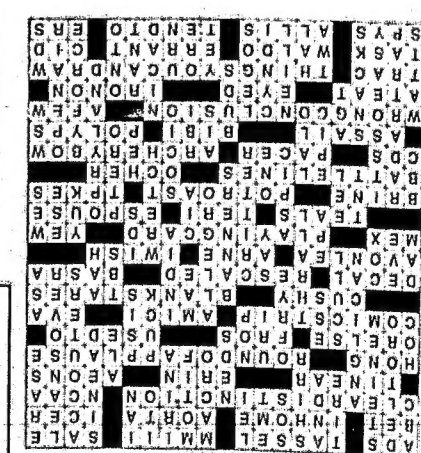
WELCOME

YIKES

ANSWER

Puzzles4Kids

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Super Crossword

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

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Answers

Answers

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Answers

Answers

Answers

West Paris Universalist Church January services

How can we top December's worship services? Join us in January and see. Every month offers inspiration and exploration into topics that are relevant in today's world-for individuals, communities and the larger world.

The First Universalist Church of West Paris strives to bring meaningful worship services on which you can reflect and bring into your daily life. Join us on Sundays at 9 a.m. followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Services are provided by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson, guest speakers, and the worship service committee.

Jan. 3, "The Search for Truth and Meaning"

Through the fourth Unitarian Universalist Principle we affirm and promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Our quest is sacred and is an act of religious devotion. Join us as we explore the mysteries that speak to us through our own intuition and experience—but also through tradition, community, conflict, nature, and relationships. Led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson.

Jan. 10, "Loving Each Other, Loving the World" As Unitarian Universalists we have been called to Stand on the Side of Love, to Be the Love, even to Love the Hell out of the World. But are all types of

love the same? What is the connection between loving the world and loving in a more interpersonal level? The service is led by Sean Neil-Barron, who will become an ordained minister in the fall of 2016. Growing up in Canada, Sean received a degree in Conflict Studies and Theology from Saint Paul University and went on to graduate from Harvard Divinity School. Sean received preliminary fellowship from the UUA in October 2015. Sean believes in the transformative power of UU religious communities to be places of formation, wonder, and service.

Jan. 17, "Where Do We Go from Here" Reverend

Martin Luther King Jr.'s last book, *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community*, is as timely today as when he wrote it more... in 1967. Using his great books as our text, this service will be a consideration of today's civil rights challenges.

Jan. 24, "The Velveteen Rabbit: A Story of the Possibilities of Love" Wear and tear, love, suffering, transition and a warm look at the mystery of transformation. Led by The Reverend Fred Jordan.

Jan. 31, "Speaking Truth to Power" Speaking truth to power is perhaps the oldest and, certainly, one of the most difficult of ethical challenges because to

Age-Friendly Community news

Happy New Year! In the coming year we anticipate some exciting ventures toward making our community more age-friendly. You can get in on the ground floor. No matter your age, you may be interested in some important information that will be discussed on Thursday, Jan. 14, 4-6 p.m. at the West Parish Congregational Church.

Amy Flowers, the analyst from Analytic Insight, will discuss her findings from the survey we distributed in October. How did you and your fellow community members feel about the importance of affordable, age-friendly housing, seasonal services, adequate transportation services, social, learning and recreational activities (and more)? How will we begin to address these issues?

do so entails personal danger. At this service we will explore some of the truths we fear speaking and how we overcome our fear. Led by The Reverend Fayre Stephenson.

For more information about the church and services, please contact

Marta Clements, 674-2143, mclements96894@roadrunner.com, or Bob Clifford at 674-3442, bobclifford@megalink.net.

To learn more about Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, please visit <http://www.uua.org/>.

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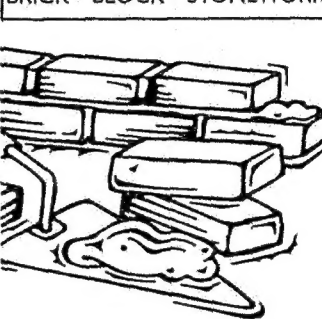
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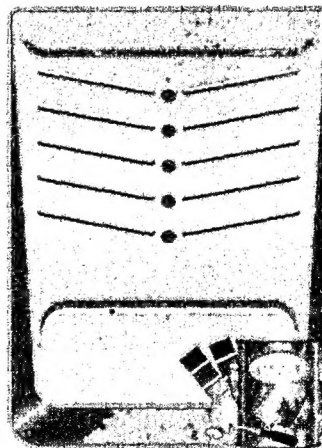
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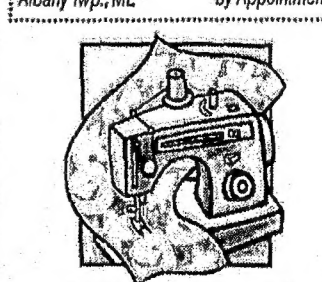
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2015

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TOWN OF BETHEL COMMITTEE VACANCIES

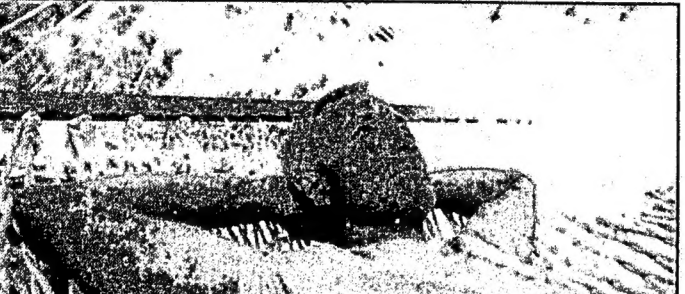
The Town of Bethel is seeking volunteers to serve on various town committees. Persons interested in serving on the committees listed below should submit an application form to the Town Office. To obtain an application form go to our web site www.bethelmaine.org, call 207-824-2669, pick up from the Town Office, or email us at info@bethelmaine.org. All applications must be received by 12 PM, Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

Committee	Number of Vacancies	Length of Term (Years)
Appeals Board	1	2
Bingham Forest Authority	2	3
Conservation Commission	1	3
Ordinance Review	2	1
Planning Board	1	3
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Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County.

Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter at 9 Swallow Road in South Paris Tues, Wed, Thurs: 12-4 pm; Fri: 12-6pm; Sat & Sun: 12-5pm. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website www.rpc.petfinder.com. For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, call Responsible Pet Care after noon at 743-8679.

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Woodstock Residents

Town Meeting Warrant March 29, 2016

Any Woodstock Resident wishing to have an article placed on the 2016 Town Meeting Warrant agenda should submit it to the Selectmen on or before January 15, 2016 as set by town vote.

Snow Plowing

Please remember that according to Maine State Law Title 29 section 2396 item 4, A person may not place and allow to remain on a public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.

Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses for 2016 are now available at the Woodstock Town Office.
Dogs that are six months or older, or within 10 of ownership, must now be licensed.
License fees are \$6.00 neutered/spayed
\$11.00 not neutered/spayed
\$42.00 Kennel (10 or more)

The Woodstock Dog Control Ordinance requires a kennel for more than three dogs at one residence.
You will need to bring a current rabies immunization and a certificate of neutering or spaying, if applicable.
A late fee of \$ 25.00 will be charged starting on February 1, 2016.

Nomination papers

Nomination papers will be available at the Woodstock Town Office on December 30, 2015 for any Woodstock Resident interested in running for the office of Selectmen, Assessor & Overseer of the Poor or the office of MSAID #44 School Board Director.

Not less than 25, nor more than 100, signatures of registered Woodstock voters are required to file nomination papers at the Town Clerk's Office. Completed nomination papers are due at the Town Office on February 12, 2016, which is the required 45 days before the annual town meeting.

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Obituaries



DENNIS L. BARKER

Dennis L. Barker, 52, of Hebron passed away Sunday, Dec. 20 at his home following a long courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Lewiston on Feb. 16, 1963 the son of Bradley and Judith Barker of Greene until the age of 9 then the family moved to Bethel where Dennis graduated from Telstar Regional in 1981, then furthered his education at Maine Maritime Academy, graduating in 1985. He worked as a lubrication engineer for Exxon Mobil several years in New York, then became a Global Senior Project Engineer manager for GL & V Company in N.H. His passion for learning more led him into owning his own business of White Mountain Tree Service as a licensed arborist along with owning and operating an apple orchard with his wife Jan, "Hemingway Orchards."

His latest employment was with "Rock Tenn Misisquoi Mill" in Vermont as a senior plant engineer.

Dennis was a member of the Evening Star Masonic Lodge in Buckfield and the Shriners. He had a great passion for outdoors, photography of moose, fly fishing, boating, Kubota tractors, tractor shows, auctions and Stihl chainsaws.

He is survived by soulmate and wife Jan of Hebron; his daughter Desneige and her fiancé Michael and grandson Oliver of Altamonte Springs, FL.; his mother Judith Barker of Bethel; his brother Donald and wife Dawn of Kingston, N.H.; his sister Deborah of South Paris; and his brother Daniel of Auburn; seven nieces, Darcy, Lauren, Desti-

ny, Rachel, Danielle, Emily and Bethany. He was predeceased by his father, Bradley Barker. Great friends Elmer and Buster Whiting were considered family to Dennis. His "Little Daisy May" was his prize Shih-tzu, along with his three six-year-old pet piggy's, Louise, Elizabeth and Lorraine. My Dennis L. Barker had a "Heart of Gold." Online condolences may be shared with his family at www.chandler-funerals.com

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 9 at 11 a.m. at Chandler Funeral Homes & Cremation Service, 45 Main Street, South Paris with interment in the spring at Riverside Cemetery in Bethel. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the SPCA in Lewiston or Responsible Pet Care, PO Box 82, Norway, ME 04268.



BRIAN MILLETT

Brian Millett, born April 5, 1978, most recently of Bronx, New York originally from Oxford, passed away Dec. 18, 2015 in New York City after a long illness.

He attended Oxford Hills schools and graduated from Goodwill Hinckley in 1996. From a young age Brian loved to dance. As soon as he graduated high school he left for the Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington, DC for a highly coveted spot in their Summer Ballet Program. He then joined the Ballet International in Indianapolis but was soon told it was time to move on to bigger and better things so he auditioned and

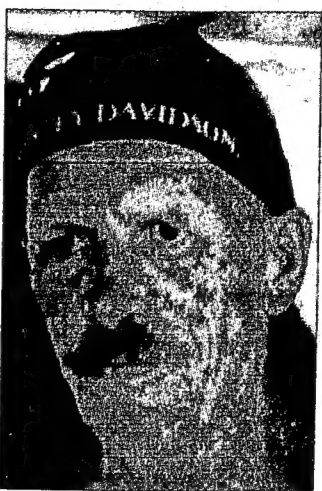
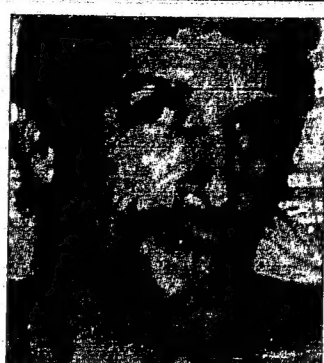
joined The American Ballet Theater in New York City. From there he performed all over the world - first in East Berlin, Germany, then Lausanne, Switzerland and many other places such as Amsterdam, Denmark, Italy, and even Alaska.

After retiring from ballet Brian became a talented hairstylist working in New York City alongside the likes of Louis Licari, Rita Hazan and Sally Hershberger. He assisted with photo shoots for Donna Karan, Michael Kors, Ralph Lauren, Max Azria, Vogue, Vanity Fair and Glamour.

Brian is survived by his loving mother, Deb Millett of Oxford; grandparents, Harriett and Lawrence Estes of South Paris; aunts and uncles: Elaine Newell of Damariscotta, Carleton and Rita Estes of Casco, Karen and Jay Harper of South Portland, Barbie and Steve Cox of Oxford. He will be missed by many cousins and friends. Brian was predeceased by great grandparents: Harris and Edith Hathaway of Bryant Pond and Leslie and Martha Estes of South Paris.

A graveside service will be held in Bryant Pond at a later date (TBD).

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make donations to The Frannie Peabody Center. Send checks, with Brian's name in the memo line, or go to peabodycenter.org/donate. Mail to: Frannie Peabody Center, 30 Danforth St. Suite 311, Portland, ME 04101.



LOUIS J. SICOTTE JR.

Louis Sicotte Jr., 59, of Bethel passed away Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015 peacefully with his fiancée Veronica by his side.

He was born Jan. 5, 1956 in Bethel, Maine, son of the late Louis J. Sicotte Sr. and Margaret (Levesque) Sicotte.

Louis grew up in Bryant Pond, Maine. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by brother-in-law Ed Friel, a nephew, Orin Sprague and father-in-law Ralph Mayo.

He is survived by three sisters, Rebecca, her husband Jack Higginbotham, Sue Ellis and Gert Friel.



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Also two brothers Danny and Jerry; eight children, Jason, Justin, Jessica, Andrea, Aaron, Robert, Mandy and Julia. Also ten grandchildren, Dallas, Bobby, Joey, Blaze, Zoey, Kendall, Conner, Carter, Keaton and Laylyah, and one great-granddaughter, Dakota. Also nieces and nephews Fred, Charles, Chris, Leslie, Louis, Dawn, Diana, Jacob, Jared, Debbie, Cheryl, Sharon and Michael.

He also leaves great nieces and nephews, many cousins and extended family from his fiancée.

Lou had many special friends, Jason E., Timmy and Jamie, Mikey P. and many, many more.

Lou (Jay) was a hard worker and took pride in his work (LS Construction). He loved the New England Patriots, music, playing drums, riding his Harley, watching movies, reading, and the American Eagle.

A special thank you to Beacon Hospice Team and staff at the Victorian Villa.

"Free as a bird, this bird you cannot change (LS)." Gone far too soon, you will be greatly missed by many.

A celebration of life for Lou is planned for Jan. 9, 1 to 6 p.m., at the Locke's Mills town hall on Main Street.

Arrangements by Cliff Gray Cremation & Funeral Services, Bryant Pond.

BARRY M. STEPHENSON

Barry M. Stephenson, 44, of Pleasant Street, Mechanic Falls, died at his residence on Dec. 24, 2015.

He was born in Brockton, Mass. on July 27, 1971, the son of Bonnie A. (McFee) and Wayne A. Stephenson, and was educated in Brockton schools and received his GED in June 2005.

Barry had been employed by Alternative Services-NE as a residential specialist since June 2015.

Barry is survived by his loving mother and stepfather Bonnie and Clyde McNamara of Norway; brothers Mark (Denise) Stephenson of Mass. and Eric (Janet) Stephenson of Bethel; second cousin Paul Brown of Boston; uncle Stephen McAfee of Norway; nieces and nephews Nolan, Lindsey and Adam; father Wayne A. Stephenson of Hudson, Mass. and very special friends Mary and Ken of Strong.

He was predeceased by his brother Todd in 2013 as well as his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Arrangements by Cliff Gray Cremation & Funeral Services, 60 Andrews Road, Bryant Pond.

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how we can use what we have learned to
make our community more age-friendly.

For more information, call Jackie Cressy
at 824-0508.